

Mr. M'Nab made the following report on the flowering of the plants in the open borders of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh.

Date.	Lowest point of therm. during the night.	Names of plants in flower.
March 15.	.. 40°	.. Saxifraga oppositifolia, Adonis vernalis.
16.	.. 37	.. Corydalis solida, C. cava.
18.	.. 32	.. Muscari botryoides, Orobus vernus.
19.	.. 35	.. Geum altaicum, Lamium maculatum, Tritonia media, Anemone nemorosa.
20.	.. 37	.. Fritillaria imperialis, Gagea lutea, Saxifraga crassifolia.
21.	.. 39	.. Primula Auricula, P. marginata, Alopecurus nigricans, Corydalis capnoides, Aubretia deltoidea.
22.	.. 29	.. Saxifraga virginica, Geum pyrenaicum, Erigeron villosus, Primula villosa.
24.	.. 23	.. Aubretia grandiflora, Orobus venosus, Narcissus pseudo-Narcissus, N. moschatus.
25.	.. 29	.. No plants observed to flower.
26.	.. 26	.. No plants observed to flower.
27.	.. 22	.. Omphalodes verna.
28.	.. 25	.. No plants observed to flower.
29.	.. 35	.. No plants observed to flower.
30.	.. 37	.. Dalibarda geoides.
31.	.. 38	.. No plants observed to flower.
April 1.	.. 42	.. Hesperis arabidifolia, Viola pulmonensis.
2.	.. 44	.. Narcissus bicolor, N. incomparabilis, Pulmonaria angustifolia.
3.	.. 45	.. Alyssum saxatile, A. montanum, A. apenninum, Orobus flaccidus, Pulmonaria virginica.
4.	.. 44	.. Pulmonaria officinalis, Euphorbia pilosa, Cardamine bellidifolia, Draba rupestris, Hierochloa borealis.
5.	.. 38	.. Asphodelus tauricus, Carex stenophylla, C. pilosa, Euphorbia epithymoides, Orobus canescens.
6.	.. 39	.. Anemone hortensis, Narcissus stellaris, Doronicum Pardalianches, Prunus Cerasus.
8.	.. 45	.. Scilla italica, Lunaria vesicaria, Hyacinthus orientalis.
9.	.. 42	.. Potentilla opaca, Narcissus pallidus, Carex montana.
10.	.. 43	.. Narcissus poeticus, Fritillaria Meleagris, Carex pilosa, Helonias bullata.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On Scolicia prisca, a Fossil Annelide of the Chalk.

By A. DE QUATREFAGES.

THE whole line of coast of the bay of St. Sebastian is formed of laminated rocks belonging to the great cretaceous formation of the Pyrenees. At one of the points of this bay, near the chapel of Antigua, I found some very remarkable impressions evidently belonging to an Annelide of enormous size. Similar impressions are met with on the opposite rocks at the foot of the hill on which stands the lighthouse. It is at this latter locality that I collected the specimen of which the following is a brief description. The slab which I brought with me, and which now forms part of the collection of the Muséum, is about 0·50 metre in length by 0·45 in breadth. Its surface is traversed in

several directions by the folds of the impression of the animal. Although neither head nor tail can be detected, and this Annelide is consequently far from being entire, these convolutions correspond to a length of about 2·20 metres.

The body appears to have been about 0·04 metre broad; its segments are thick. At some places there are externally some indentations, which appeared to me to have arisen rather from some folds of the body than from true feet. The smooth outline of the greater portion of the impression leads me to think that this Annelide was apodous. Within the segments of the body the interannular dissepiments are distinctly visible; they are as close together as in our large species of *Eunices*. These imperfect septa do not reach the intestine. The space separating them communicates with the general cavity of the body, which is perfectly distinct. In the centre of this cavity is seen the intestine, which is free and extends the whole length of the body. It varies in diameter generally from 0·005 to 0·009 metre. It is folded transversely, and these folds have nearly everywhere an imbricated appearance; but at some points where this intestine is distended transversely, and where it has acquired almost 0·015 metre in diameter, these folds are seen not to reach from one side of the intestine to the other, and form rhomboids.

The common cavity of the body evidently contained no other organ. This circumstance consequently removes this Annelide from the *Lumbrici*, the *Hirudines*, and the *Nemertes*. It appears probable to me, that the existing group to which it comes nearest is that of the Annelides Errantes.

The number of fossil naked Annelides is very small. None of the specimens known furnish any idea of the anatomy of these ancient inhabitants of the primitive oceans. On this account the specimen from the bay of St. Sebastian appears to me of considerable importance.—*Ann. des Sci. Nat.*, Nov. 1849.

Description of a new species of Gorgonia from Australia.

BY J. E. GRAY, Esq., F.R.S.

PRIMNOA AUSTRALASIE.

Coral elongate, unbranched, rather tapering; cells numerous, regular, placed in close regular circles round the stem, each formed of two series of imbricate calcareous scales.

Inhab. Australasian seas, on oyster-shell and stones.

Several specimens of this very interesting coral were sent to the British Museum by the Royal Society of Van Diemen's Land.

This coral is often covered with various species of smaller *Coralines* and *Algæ*. It varies from two to three feet in height. The axis is known from the unbranched species of *Gorgonia* by being more calcareous, and of a pale greyish colour.

Joseph Millingin, Esq., F.L.S., the Secretary of the Royal Society of Van Diemen's Land, has kindly sent me the following particulars of this coral:—

“It was fished up from a depth of some fathoms in D'Entrecasteaux Channel, between the mainland of Tasmania and Bruce's Island. It is found, as you will see, affixed to rocks and stones, and to dead,